

PATENT
450100-03176**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present After-Final Amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application and does not require further search.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-20, 24-27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 38, 39 and 41-43 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 13, 17, 24, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 38, 39 and 41-43, which are independent, are hereby amended. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

The specification is hereby amended to correct minor typographical errors.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 29 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,917,472 to Perala.

Independent claim 29 now recites, *inter alia*:

“...wherein each cursor has a predetermined priority value which can be varied at a subsequent use ...”

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As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 5,917,472 to Peralá (hereinafter, merely "Peralá") relates to a system "that is usable by at least two persons (owner 3 and customer 5) in connection with an application which does not support multiple mice or multiple cursor presentations. Each person has a respective mouse (4,6) and the customer is permitted to participate in the operation of the application, at least to the extent of being able to point to objects on the screen by means of a cursor." (see abstract)

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Peralá that would disclose or suggest the above-identified features of claim 29.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 29 is patentable.

Independent claim 38 is similar in scope and believed to be patentable for similar reasons.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-20, 24-27, 30, 32, 33, 35, 39, 41-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,917,472 to Peralá in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,175,842 to Kirk, et al.

Independent claim 1 now recites, *inter alia*:

"...wherein each cursor has a predetermined priority value which can be varied at a subsequent use ..."

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,175,842 to Kirk, et al. relates to a system for providing shared access to a three-dimensional virtual environment synchronously with hypertext browsing. A cospace server receives a request from a client, tracks the requests, and stores components of the requested files. When a certain threshold of users have requested a

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file, the cospace server constructs a three-dimensional room description and sends it to the clients that are browsing the file.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Peralá or Kirk, taken alone or in combination that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of independent claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above, independent claims 9, 13, 17, 24, 30, 32, 33, 35, 39, 41, 42, and 43 are also patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent on a dependent claim discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Applicants submit that this After-Final Amendment does not require further search and that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of this After-Final Amendment and early passage to issue of the present application.

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